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THE MARKET GUIDE

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APPLY TO

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CHATHAM ONT.

Examination Scandal

This painful affair need not be rehearsed minutely as our readers are by this time familiar with the details. Mr. Smith, Principal of Central School and Model School, was recommended as examiner for Dresden and the appointment confirmed by the Education Department. Mr. Smith received the examination papers by express in a bag sealed with the Government lead seal, while the examination papers were also sealed. The bag was marked plainly in accordance with the regulations, "to be kept intact till the day of the examination. Mr. Smith violated his trust and not only opened them but made them the basis of his home work, thus giving his pupils an unfair advantage over Brackin's. Inspector Park having discovered this fraud reported it and the Deputy Minister of Education stigmatized it as a serious crime. Mr. Smith confessed his guilt. Dr. McColl suspended his certificate on the grounds that he had violated the Regulations and committed a "fraud." Department endorsed the Inspector's action. County Board of Examiners met to consider case, Thursday in Harrison Hall, Inspector Rev. W. Colles presiding, with Inspectors Park and McColl and McColl. Meeting open to public and President Colles most careful to accommodate reporters with convenient seats. Deputation, the Mayor, Drs. Musson and Thornton and Mr. J. A. Wilson, Chairman of Board of Public School Trustees, addressed Board of Examiners in Mr. Smith's favor. President Colles very ably summed up the result of the proceedings, praising Mr. Smith's action of confession and resignation and giving due weight to the pleas of the deputation and to the views of the Public School Board. He also voiced his own personal sympathy and he believed that of his colleagues, with Mr. Smith in his unfortunate position. In commenting on a remark of Dr. Musson, he pointed out that the enquiry committed into the hands of the examiners had a broad Provincial scope and could not be viewed from a purely Chatham standpoint. Here we touch the kernel of the matter. The Board of Examiners, as repre-

senting the Department, must consider what effect the condoning of Mr. Smith's fraud by promptly restoring him his certificate, would have on the 1000 examiners of the Province and on the tens of thousands of public school pupils in Ontario.

As to the petition, such documents have little weight because as a rule they are signed without thought and with a vague idea to oblige an acquaintance with a scratch of the pen. One signature is that of a Separate School Supporter. So far expression of deliberate opinion goes, one who ought to know values the paper at 100 names. Give it the 275. They claim that 85 per cent of the protestant public school supporters favor the petition—this would mean 850 possible signers, or 605 who would have signed. Why keep them in the shadowy background. Get up a public meeting in the Grand Opera House or get up a set of fresh petitions if you feel that you have the great majority at your back.

There are splendid openings for English teachers in Cuba and South America, at high salaries as the Spaniards are most anxious for English education for their children.

Note the Kent Mills change of ad., in this issue.

New Factories

We interviewed Manson Campbell as to whether a turning factory for small turning of various kinds could not be established in connection with his factory that is that the new factory should use his waste lumber. Fifteen loads per week soft maple, elm, etc., now sold for kindling wood. And getting further supplies from Wagon Works. He thought this would be rather a piecayne business but added that there was a splendid opening in Chatham for a cream separator factory, which would reduce the price of these machines to farmers and lead to great increase of output of creamery. He said that his New Zealand agent was beset with inquiries for separators so that this factory would not be dependent on Kent or even Canadian custom.